

MAY 25th, 1870.—P. M.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Krimminger in the Chair.

The roll was called and the following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Bradwell, Crawford, Cruse, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Smith, Smithson, Vaughan, Weeks, and Wentworth—18.

A quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and corrected.

Mr. Crawford moved that the Senate now proceed to the election of President *pro tem*.

Mr. Pearce offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, at the last Session of the Legislature George E. Wentworth, Senator from the First District, was elected President *pro tem*. of this body and has not since been deposed or superseded; AND WHEREAS, No Lieutenant-Governor, whose constitutional duty it is to preside over the deliberations of this body, has appeared; Therefore,

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes said George E. Wentworth as President *pro tem*. until his successor may be elected.

Mr. Henderson moved that the name of George E. Wentworth be stricken out, and that of J. N. Krimminger be inserted in lieu of it.

Mr. Purman moved to lay the motion on the table;

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Katzenberg, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls, and Wentworth—10.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, and Weeks—9.

So the motion was laid on the table.

Mr. Henderson moved that the Senate do now adjourn until Saturday next, at 4 P. M.;

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, and Weeks—10.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Smithson, Vaughan, and Wentworth—10.

So the Senate refused to adjourn.

Mr. Henderson moved that the Sergeant-at-Arms remove everybody, not a member of the Senate, from within the bar.

Mr. Smith moved to lay the motion on the table;

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Katzenberg, Meacham, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls, and Wentworth—10.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, and Weeks—10.

So the motion was not laid on the table.

Mr. Wentworth moved to indefinitely postpone the motion;

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan, Walls, and Wentworth—9.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, and Weeks—11.

So the motion was not indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Meacham moved that the Senate do now adjourn to 10 A. M. to-morrow;

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Cruse, Ginn, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Meacham, Purman, Smithson, Weeks, and Wentworth—12.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Henderson, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Smith, Vaughan, and Walls—8.

So the Senate adjourned until 10 A. M., to-morrow.

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THURSDAY, May 26, 1870.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Krimminger in the Chair.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The roll being called the following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Bradwell, Crawford, Cruse, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Smithson, Walls, Weeks and Wentworth—19.

A quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read, corrected and approved.

Mr. Henderson offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the Senate, That the Sergeant-at-Arms be required to exclude from within the bar of the Senate all persons other than the Senators, officers and attaches of the Senate and reporters of the press ; and that the privilege of this floor be extended only upon the special order of the Senate, which leave shall terminate with the day upon which it is granted.

Mr. Purman offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That the Standing Rules of the last session of the Senate be adopted as the rules for this extra session.

The chair ruled that the substitute offered by Mr. Purman was out of order.

Mr. Smith offered the following as a substitute for Mr. Henderson's resolution :

Resolved by the Senate, That the Sergeant-at-Arms be required to exclude from within the bar of the Senate, all persons other than the Senators, officers and attaches of the Senate, the Governor, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and members of the Assembly, Ladies and Reporters of the Press, which Reporters may occupy seats upon the floor of the Senate by invitation of the Secretary of the Senate, and that the Sergeant-at-Arms be required to obtain 12 extra chairs for invited guests within the bar of the Senate.

Mr. McCaskill moved to lay the substitute upon the table.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—10.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Kendrick, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—9.

So the substitute was laid upon the table.

Mr. Wentworth moved to lay the resolution offered by Mr. Henderson on the table.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—8.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—11.

So the Senate refused to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. Meacham moved to indefinitely postpone said resolution.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Krimminger, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—9.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—10. So the Senate refused to indefinitely postpone the resolution.

Mr. Wentworth moved that further consideration of the resolution be postponed until to-morrow, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith and Wentworth—7.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Walls and Weeks—12.

So the Senate refused to postpone the consideration of said resolution till 4 P. M. to-morrow.

Mr. Wentworth then moved to postpone consideration of the resolution until 4 o'clock, P. M., to-day.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—8.

Nays—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—11.

So the Senate refused to postpone the consideration of the resolution until 4 o'clock P. M., to-day.

Mr. Smith moved a call of the Senate.

Upon which the yeas and nays being called for, the vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith and Wentworth—7.

Nay—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Walls and Weeks—12.

The call of the Senate was refused.

As the vote was about to be taken on Mr. Henderson's resolution,

Mr. Walls offered the following amendment :

Strike out all after the word "resolved."

Mr. McCaskill moved to lay the amendment on the table,

On which the yeas and nays were called for.

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Cruse, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—12.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—7.

So the amendment proposed by Mr. Walls was laid on the table.

Mr. Henderson withdrew his resolution.

Mr. McCaskill moved that the Journal of Tuesday be so corrected as to show clearly the actual proceedings of this body pending its organization on that day, including the several motions and votes taken thereon.

Mr. Smith moved as a substitute, that the Journal of Tuesday be corrected so as to show all the motions and votes thereon, made and taken in the Senate on that day,

Which was adopted.

The Journal of Tuesday, the 24th inst. was ordered to be corrected so as to read as follows:

After the sentence, "*Resolved*, That the Senate do not recognize the appointment of E. C. Weeks as Lieutenant Governor, or his right to preside over this body," insert "Mr. Smith accepted the substitute and withdrew his resolution."

After the sentence, "Whereupon Mr. Weeks retired from the Senate Chamber," insert "Mr. Purman presented a letter from E. C. Weeks, and moved that the letter be read.

"On motion of Mr. Meacham, the letter was returned to the gentleman."

Mr. Smith moved that the Senate adjourn till 4 o'clock, p. m. to-day.

The Senate refused to adjourn.

Mr. McCaskill in the chair.

Mr. Walls called up the resolution offered by Mr. Pearce on yesterday, which reads as follows:

WHEREAS, at the last Session of the Legislature, George E. Wentworth, Senator from the First District, was elected President pro tem. of this body and has not since been deposed or superseded; AND WHEREAS, no Lieutenant Governor, whose constitutional duty it is to preside over the deliberations of this body, has appeared; Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes George E. Wentworth as President pro tem. until his successor may be elected.

Mr. Henderson moved to strike out the preamble to the resolution,

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Pearce moved the adoption of the resolution.

The Chair decided that no motion could be entertained until the Senate had elected a President pro tem.

Mr. Smith appealed from the decision of the chair.

On the question, "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?"

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Krimminger, Moragne, Smithson and Weeks—10.

Nays—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Walls and Wentworth—8.

So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

Mr. Kendrick moved that the Senate do now go into an election of President pro tem,

Which was agreed to.

Mr. Smith nominated George E. Wentworth.

Mr. Crawford nominated J. N. Krimminger.

Mr. Walls nominated J. A. Henderson.

Mr. Meacham nominated R. M. Smith.

The Senate then proceeded to the election of a President pro tem.

The following was the result:

For Mr. Krimminger—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, and Weeks—9.

For Mr. Wentworth—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Katzenberg, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Smith, Vaughan and Walls—9.

So there was no election.

Mr. Purman moved that the Senate do now adjourn till 4 o'clock, p. m. to-day,

Which was not agreed to.

Mr. Wentworth withdrew his name as candidate for the office of President pro tem. and nominated R. M. Smith.

On motion of Mr. Bradwell, the Senate proceeded to a second vote for President pro tem,

The following was the result:

For Mr. Krimminger—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Kendrick, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, and Weeks—9.

For Mr. Smith—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Katzenberg, Meacham, Pearce, Purman, Vaughan Walls and Wentworth—9.

So there was no election.

On motion of Mr. Purman, the Senate adjourned till 4 o'clock p. m. to-day.

#### FOUR O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Senate resumed its session.

Mr. Krimminger in the chair.

Mr. Wentworth moved a call of the Senate;

Which was agreed to, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Bradwell, Crawford, Ginn, Krimminger, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Pearce, Smith, Smithson, Vaughan and Wentworth—12.

The Sergeant-at-Arms was dispatched for the absent members.

On motion of Mr. Wentworth, the further call of the Senate was dispensed with.

On motion of Mr. Walls, the Senate went into an election for President pro tem.

Mr. McCaskill in the Chair.

Mr. Walls nominated Geo. E. Wentworth.

Mr. Crawford nominated J. N. Krimminger.

The following is the result of the vote cast:

FOR KRIMMINGER—Messrs. Atkins, Crawford, Ginn, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson and Weeks—7.

FOR WENTWORTH—Messrs. Bradwell, Cruse, Katzenberg, Kendrick, Meacham, Pearce, Smith, Vaughan and Walls—9.

Mr. Wentworth having received the majority of votes cast, was declared duly elected President pro tem.

The President pro tem. in the Chair.

Mr. Walls offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Chair appoint a committee of three to inform the House that the Senate is now organized and ready to proceed to business.

Which was adopted, and Messrs. Walls, Krimminger and McCaskill appointed said committee.

The Committee retired and after a brief absence returned and reported they had performed their duty and asked to be discharged;

Which was granted.

Mr. Walls offered the following concurrent resolution:

*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed, two on the part of the Senate and three on the part of the House, to inform his Excellency the Governor, that the Legislature is now organized and ready to receive any communication he may be pleased to make;

Which was adopted.

Ordered that the same be certified to the Assembly.

The following communication was received from the Assembly:

ASSEMBLY HALL,  
Tallahassee, Fla., May 26, 1870.

Hon. GEO. E. WENTWORTH, President of the Senate:

Sir—I am directed by the Assembly to inform the Senate that the Assembly has concurred in Senate resolution to appoint a joint committee to wait upon his Excellency the Governor, and inform him that the Legislature is organized and would be pleased to receive any communication that he may be pleased to

make, and appointed Messrs. Walker, Osgood and McKinnon, such committee on part of the Assembly.

Very respectfully,

WM. FORSYTH BYNUM,  
Clerk of the Assembly.

Which was read.

The President pro tem. appointed Messrs. Walls and Smithson as a committee on the part of the Senate to notify His Excellency the Governor of the organization of the Legislature.

The committee retired, returned and reported that they had performed their duty and asked to be discharged,

Which was granted.

The following Message of His Excellency the Governor to the Legislature, was received and read:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,  
TALLAHASSEE, May 23, 1870.

TO THE LEGISLATURE:

*Gentlemen*—You have been summoned to meet in Extraordinary Session, under a necessity imposed by the financial condition of the State, induced by circumstances beyond the control of the Executive.

At the time of fixing the adjournment of the late regular session, you had charged me with the responsibility of redeeming and disposing of certain bonds of the State, which had been hypothecated for an inconsiderable portion of their real value, and which were in danger of being sacrificed.

You passed amendments to the revenue law so as more effectively to equalize the State tax and bring into requisition a large amount of taxable property now yielding no revenue; thus relieving the industrial interests of burdens which they had hitherto exclusively borne; also, removing the restriction upon the counties against raising revenue sufficient for their necessary expenses;

You passed a bill, nearly unanimously, in the Senate, and two-thirds of the Assembly attested their approval, requiring foreign corporations doing business in this State to invest a portion of their capital in bonds of Florida as security to our citizens against fraud;

You passed a bill instructing the Governor to draw and invest the proceeds of the Agricultural College land scrip, due the State of Florida, in accordance with the act of Congress;

Which several acts were deemed necessary to the appreciation of the State credit and the sale of our bonds.

The first and most important of these measures was lost by non-enrollment before the hour of adjournment;

The second was defeated by the strategy which a factious minority frequently find effective during the last hours of a session;

The third came to me properly attested by the officers of both Houses, was approved, and became a law so far as all the forms are concerned; and this formed the only available resource from which to realize funds to redeem the bonds then forfeited and to be forfeited within ten days.

With this single reliance, I proceeded to execute the trust confided to me to save the State credit from further disaster. I filed a copy of the law with the Secretary of the Interior, with a request for immediate action, and proceeded to New York and negotiated a conditional sale of the scrip for a sum sufficient to enable me to redeem 316 of the 416 bonds under hypothecation. This would have enabled me to deposit \$100,000 in bonds in the Agricultural College fund, and given me 216 bonds upon which to raise money to redeem the other \$100,000 under hypothecation, and to secure means to provide for the exigencies created by the Legislature.

On my return to Washington, to realize the scrip, I was advised that allegations of fraud and forgery had been filed in the department by an officer of my cabinet, then in attendance there, and that in consequence the Secretary of the Interior declined to issue the scrip to which the State was entitled.

This deprived me of my last resource, and there was left no alternative but to procure an extension of the loans already contracted, and attempt, by a gradual appreciation of the State credit, to create a market for our bonds within the limit fixed by law. With proper cooperation among the officers of the government, and temporary forbearance on the part of the people and the press, the State *might* have been carried through to the next regular session of the Legislature without serious disaster, but with great inconvenience. In order to refute the calumnies which had been set afloat by enemies of the State, in regard to the State finances, I caused the accompanying state-

ment to be made public through the New York and Washington papers. (See appendix A.)

As the case now stands, the counties are paralyzed under the prohibition of sufficient revenue for current expenses, the holders of State Warrants are unjustly suffering, and State credit is unnecessarily depressed. This, in my judgment, fully justifies the convening of the representatives of the people in extraordinary session.

In addition to this, the law authorizing a tax for schools has been repealed, and the tax, if levied at all, must be under provision of the Constitution. Thus doubt and confusion has arisen to that degree that additional legislation seems necessary to save our school system from paralysis.

I recommend these several measures to your earnest attention.

In connection with the finances, I beg leave to suggest the propriety of funding the entire outstanding debt in one class of gold-bearing seven per cent. bonds. There are now five classes of outstanding State securities, (and a sixth provided for,) while the aggregate amount does not exceed \$1,000,000.

Thus: Seven per cent. bonds, 1857, \$220,000; eight per cent. Convention bonds, \$30,000; six per cent. bonds, 1868, \$300,000; six per cent. bonds, 1869, \$200,000; Comptroller's warrants and Treasurer's certificates, say \$200,000.

To fund these in a uniform bond would require as follows:

220 7 per cent. bonds, 1857.....	\$220,000
Unpaid interest on same, say.....	100,000
71 bonds sold, 6 per cent., 1868.....	71,000—\$391,000
Due on hypothecated bonds.....	\$120,000
8 per cent. Convention bonds, and interest,	34,000
Comptroller's warrants and Treasurer's	
certificates, say.....	200,000
Floating debt to be redeemed in cash.....	\$354,000 }
Requiring in bonds at 75 cents.....	472,000
Aggregate .....	\$863,000

An issue of \$1,000,000, in gold bearing bonds, and none other can now find a market, will fund all our outstanding bonded and floating debt, and leave cash enough in the Treasury to pay the expenses of the government for the current year.

leaving the revenue from taxation the present year to meet the expenses of the next.

At the late session you adopted the policy now common to nearly all the States, of affording State aid to works of Internal Improvement. To a certain extent this is proper and necessary to the prosperity of the State. But the complaint has been made, and perhaps justly, that this has been carried too far, and that many of the acts are extravagant in their provisions, and not sufficiently guarded to protect the State against future calamity. A revision or repeal of such acts is worthy of consideration.

I have favored a reasonable system of legislative aid to lines of railroad from our Atlantic ports west to Pensacola, and south to Tampa, Charlotte Harbor, and Key West. In my judgment, State aid should be extended no farther, and I recommend the passage of a law prohibiting any further issue or endorsement of bonds for Internal Improvements, beyond these two trunk lines, which will give us all necessary facilities for the rapid and profitable development of the State without hazard to our financial character, and without burden to the people.

I again respectfully suggest the change from a military government to a civil government in control of the Penitentiary, and ask your attention to the bill reported for that purpose at the last session. I also renew my suggestions in regard to the State Capitol, and recommend the passage of the bill adopted by the Senate at the late session.

Near the close of the regular session, proceedings were had which operated to suspend the judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit from the exercise of the functions of his office, and by this means the circuit is deprived of the necessary facilities for the administration of the laws. If it were possible, it seems very desirable that this case should be taken up and disposed of at this session.

In all things I trust you will have in view the highest interests of the State, regardless of personal, local, or partisan considerations, and in all measures calculated to advance the prosperity of the people, you will meet my hearty co-operation.

Very respectfully, &c.,  
HARRISON REED, Governor.

## APPENDIX A.

On January 1, 1870, the State of Florida had an outstanding bonded and floating debt of but \$708,711.12. This includes the bonded debt prior to the war, the interest on the debt during and since the war, the expenses of two Constitutional Conventions held since the surrender, and all unpaid claims against the Government. Of this amount the Indian Trust Fund at Washington holds \$205,360, and the remainder is held principally within the State. In addition to this, there is due from the general fund to the School, Seminary, and Internal Improvement Funds of the State, \$303,045.08 for moneys absorbed during the Rebellion and since. We will suppose all this debt funded in 7 per cent. bonds, and we have—

Due to State creditors.....	\$708,711 12
Due State Trust Funds.....	303,045 08
Total .....	\$1,011,756 20
The interest on this debt would be.....	\$70,822 23

The new Constitution requires that an annual tax sufficient to defray the current expenses of the Government, and pay the interest upon the public debt, *shall be levied*. Before the war the assessed value of property, including slaves, was according to my recollection about \$110,000,000. Under the old law the property-owner valued his own property, and after the war the people generally returned their real estate at less than a quarter of its value, and hundreds of thousands of acres of lands held by foreigners and non-residents was not returned at all, so that the aggregate valuation was only about \$25,000,000. Under the new Constitution and laws, all the property is required to be assessed by sworn Assessors, appointed by the Governor and Senate, and not subject to the caprice of unwilling tax-payers.

Under a proper assessment, such as will now be made, it is safe to place the valuation at \$50,000,000. The law specifies that one-half of one per cent. shall be levied as a State tax. This will yield \$250,000, in addition to the revenue from specific taxes for polls, licences, &c., which will amount to from \$30,000 to \$50,000 more. This will afford ample revenue, without any increase of the rate of taxation, to defray the current expenses of the Government, pay the annual interest, and allow a liberal amount to the sinking fund for the ultimate payment of the State debt.

I have shown that the immediate resources of the State are sufficient to meet all its obligations. In addition to this, we have 400 miles of railroad in operation, which, under existing

laws, pays no tax; 1,000 miles of telegraph paying no revenue; oyster-beds and fisheries along 1,000 miles of coast, and equal to the best in the world, yielding no State revenue; foreign corporations doing business in the State, insurance companies, steamship companies, &c., pay no tribute. When these and other resources, now latent, are brought into requisition, as in other States, the State can carry ten times her present public debt without additional burden to the people in the rate of taxation. About \$150,000 of our floating debt is receivable for public lands, of which the State has about *eleven millions of acres* already, and when the public surveys are completed will be entitled under existing laws to receive over *five millions more*. In addition to this, the State of Florida has a valid unliquidated claim against the Federal Government for expenditures in the Seminole war of \$100,000 or \$200,000.

The railroad policy is the same as that of the States of Georgia and Alabama. To complete her system, as projected, it will require about 400 miles more of road, and the Legislature, at its late session, authorized, by a nearly unanimous vote, the loaning the State credit in aid of the railroad companies to the amount variously of \$8,000, \$14,000, and \$16,000 per mile, to be issued as the works are completed, in sections of 20 miles, upon *securing the State by first mortgage liens conditional upon the payment by the Company of principal and interest*. In no case is aid promised in advance of the work, and the falsehoods which have been so widely circulated of loose legislation and lavish issue of bonds have no further basis than the malice and vindictive hatred of disappointed corruptionists, who have in vain sought to fasten themselves upon the financial and railroad systems of Florida for purposes of personal aggrandizement at the expense of the State. Having failed to rule, they seek now to ruin the credit of the State.

Under the new system of Government, Florida is entering a career of prosperity hitherto-unknown in her history. Her slave population, as freemen and citizens, are worth four-fold more to the State in enhancing its wealth and prosperity than as slaves. Immigration and capital from the North are rapidly developing the resources of the eastern portion of the State, while the opening of the railroad to Pensacola from the North, is commanding for that beautiful city unparalleled prosperity. No State in the South has less obstacles to overcome than Florida, and there is no substantial reason why her bonds should not be as valuable as those of South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama.

Mr. Meacham offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the President of the Senate appoint special committees on the different subjects of the Governor's Message, Which was adopted.

The President announced that he would appoint committees on all subjects connected with His Excellency's Message to-morrow.

Mr. Meacham offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, information of the death of the Hon. J. M. Underwood, Senator from the Eleventh District, has reached this body: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That in token of respect to the memory of said deceased, the Senate do now adjourn until to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

Which was adopted.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, a. m.

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FRIDAY, May 27, 1870.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment, the President pro tem. in the chair.

Prayer by the Chaplain.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Messrs. Atkins, Bradwell, Crawford, Ginn, Henderson, Hillyer, Katzenberg, Meacham, Moragne, McCaskill, Smithson, Vaughan and Wentworth—13.

A quorum present.

On motion of Mr. Katzenberg, the reading of yesterday's Journal was dispensed with.

The President pro tem. announced the appointment of the following committees:

*On Funding the State Debt:*

MESSRS. PURMAN,	KATZENBERG,
SMITHSON,	PEARCE,
	HENDERSON.

*On Taxation:*

MESSRS. HILLYER,	KENDRICK,
WALLS,	GINN,
	MEACHAM.